

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 15, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 23, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 6, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 883

Introduced by Assembly Member Cooley

February 22, 2013

An act to add and repeal Article 7 (commencing with Section 18974) of Chapter 11 of Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to child sexual abuse, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 883, as amended, Cooley. Child sexual abuse: prevention pilot program.

Existing law authorizes the Office of Child Abuse Prevention to fund, through allocations provided to local counties, child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs. Existing law creates the State Children's Trust Fund in the State Treasury and requires money in the fund to be allocated to the State Department of Social Services for the purpose of funding child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs.

This bill would establish the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program as a pilot program in no more than 3 counties, as selected by the State Department of Social Services from among counties that volunteer to participate and based on specified criteria, to provide child sexual abuse

prevention and intervention services through public, ~~private~~, or *private* nonprofit programs that provide those services. The bill would annually appropriate \$50,000 from the General Fund to each county that is selected to conduct a pilot program, thereby making an appropriation. The bill would provide that public, ~~private~~, and *or private* nonprofit agencies shall be eligible for this funding if specified evidence is provided and would encourage counties to give priority for funding to existing programs that have demonstrated effectiveness in child sexual abuse ~~or prevention or intervention or commercial sexual exploitation prevention or intervention~~. The bill would require each participating county to compile and collect data on the efficacy of the pilot program and to annually report to the State Department of Social Services, the Assembly Committee on Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Human Services specified information, including statistics on the increase or decrease of reports of child sexual abuse within the county. The bill would also make related findings and declarations. These provisions would be repealed on January 1, 2019.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Children are a precious resource in the state and country.
- 4 (b) Victims of child abuse, child sexual abuse, and neglect are
- 5 at higher risk for alcoholism, drug abuse, depression, eating
- 6 disorders, obesity, suicide, and other chronic adult health problems.
- 7 (c) Child abuse and neglect cost the United States at least \$124
- 8 billion per year according to the federal Centers for Disease Control
- 9 and Prevention.
- 10 (d) Preventative services and training can significantly reduce
- 11 the incidences of child abuse, stabilize families, and contribute to
- 12 a reduction in crime.
- 13 (e) While child sexual abuse programs that address increased
- 14 reporting after the fact are critical to the child victims, it should
- 15 be the goal of all Californians to promote adult and community
- 16 responsibility to prevent child sexual abuse.

1 SEC. 2. Article 7 (commencing with Section 18974) is added
2 to Chapter 11 of Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions
3 Code, to read:

4
5 Article 7. Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Intervention
6 Programs
7

8 18974. (a) The Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program is
9 hereby established as a pilot program in no more than three
10 counties to provide child sexual abuse prevention and intervention
11 services through ~~public, private, or~~ *public or private* nonprofit
12 programs that provide child sexual abuse prevention and
13 intervention services.

14 (b) The sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) is hereby
15 appropriated annually from the General Fund to each county that
16 voluntarily chooses and is selected to conduct a pilot program
17 under this article to prevent and reduce child sexual abuse.

18 (c) The State Department of Social Services shall select counties
19 to participate in the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program, from
20 among the counties that notify the department of their intention to
21 participate, based on the agency's determination that the counties
22 have significant incidences of child sexual abuse or *commercially*
23 sexually exploited ~~minors~~ *children* and have a ~~public, private, or~~
24 *public or private* nonprofit organization with experience in child
25 sexual abuse issues *or commercial sexual exploitation issues* that
26 is designated to act as the primary administrator for the pilot
27 program.

28 (d) Each participating county is encouraged to efficiently use
29 these funds by giving priority to programs currently serving the
30 needs of at-risk children that meet the criteria in Section 18974.1
31 and that have demonstrated effectiveness in child sexual abuse
32 prevention or intervention *or commercial sexual exploitation*
33 *prevention or intervention*. The funds appropriated under this
34 section shall not supplant or replace any existing funding for
35 programs currently serving the needs of at-risk children, but may
36 only supplement the expansion of existing programs or the
37 collaboration of separate existing programs within the county, or
38 fund newly created programs within the county if no current
39 programs exist to serve the needs of children at risk of sexual abuse
40 *or commercial sexual exploitation*.

1 18974.1. (a) The county board of supervisors of a participating
2 county shall allocate the pilot program funds according to the
3 provisions of this article. The county board of supervisors may
4 delegate the administration of the pilot program funds to the county
5 social services department.

6 (b) Public, ~~private, and~~ *or private* nonprofit agencies shall be
7 eligible for funding provided that evidence is submitted as part of
8 the application to the county that the proposed services are not
9 duplicated in the community, are based on needs of children at
10 risk, and are supported by a local public agency, including, but
11 not limited to, one of the following:

- 12 (1) The county welfare department.
- 13 (2) A public law enforcement agency.
- 14 (3) The county probation department.
- 15 (4) The county board of supervisors.
- 16 (5) The county public health department.
- 17 (6) The county mental health department.
- 18 (7) Any school district.

19 (c) The administering local agency shall, with oversight and
20 review from the county board of supervisors, ~~compile and collect~~
21 ~~data on the efficacy of the pilot program.~~ *include and integrate*
22 *the pilot program in the county system improvement plan, county*
23 *self-assessments, and the county plan for other federal and state*
24 *child abuse prevention programs. To the extent applicable, the*
25 *county shall provide similar assurances, data, and outcome*
26 *assessments to the Office of Child Abuse Prevention with respect*
27 *to the pilot program as are provided regarding other federal and*
28 *state child abuse prevention programs.*

29 (d) Each participating county shall annually report to the State
30 Department of Social Services, the Assembly Committee on
31 Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Human Services
32 information including, but not limited to, all of the following:

33 (1) Changing public attitudes or public opinion polls showing
34 increased awareness of prevention techniques for child sexual
35 abuse.

36 (2) The amount of educational materials distributed to
37 stakeholder groups that address and promote child sexual abuse
38 prevention and prevention techniques.

39 (3) Statistics on the increase or decrease of reports of child
40 sexual abuse within the county.

1 (4) Identified best practices used by the pilot program which
2 may be replicated and used by other counties, including, but not
3 limited to, community outreach, data collection and analysis, and
4 the creation of educational materials.

5 ~~(5) A complete and accurate accounting of all funds received~~
6 ~~and spent pursuant to this section.~~

7 ~~(6) Efforts to strengthen the capacity of schools and~~
8 ~~youth-serving organizations pursuant to subdivision (f) and the~~
9 ~~outcome of those efforts.~~

10 ~~(e) Each participating county shall propose a multiyear plan~~
11 ~~that identifies how to advance all of the following objectives:~~

12 ~~(1) Fostering community coalitions and networks for preventing~~
13 ~~and reducing child sexual abuse.~~

14 ~~(2) Strengthening individual knowledge and skills in identifying~~
15 ~~risks and prevention techniques for child sexual abuse.~~

16 ~~(3) Promoting greater data sharing and collaboration between~~
17 ~~law enforcement agencies, probation departments, and child welfare~~
18 ~~agencies to identify children in the community who are at risk for~~
19 ~~sexual abuse or sexual exploitation.~~

20 ~~(f) Each pilot program shall do all of the following to strengthen~~
21 ~~the capacity of schools and youth-serving organizations to prevent~~
22 ~~sexual abuse:~~

23 ~~(1) Utilize an assessment process to identify strengths and gaps.~~

24 ~~(2) Implement comprehensive training, screening, responding,~~
25 ~~and reporting protocols.~~

26 ~~(3) Develop codes of conduct to prevent inappropriate behaviors~~
27 ~~before they escalate to reportable offenses.~~

28 ~~(4) Modify physical spaces to reduce risk.~~

29 ~~(5) Adopt policies matched to the organizational mission.~~

30 ~~(g) Each pilot program may create guidelines to assess the~~
31 ~~community's overall understanding of child sexual abuse.~~

32 ~~(h) Each report submitted pursuant to subdivision (d) shall be~~
33 ~~submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government~~
34 ~~Code.~~

35 18974.2. This article shall remain in effect only until January
36 1, 2019, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted
37 statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2019, deletes or extends
38 that date.